

# METHOD OF GENERATING AN IMMUNE RESPONSE AND COMPOSITIONS USED FOR SAME

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention provides immunogenic compositions containing attenuated bacteria (such as *Salmonella enterica*) which are resistant to the antimicrobial actions of human defensins, particularly human defensin 5 (HD-5). Methods for using these compositions to elicit a sustained and highly specific immune response are provided. The invention also provides methods for preparing vaccines wherein a heterologous antigen is expressed by the defensin-resistant bacteria.